

MOT

Old trees are more *moſſy* far than young; for that the ſap is not ſo frank as to riſe all to the boughs, but tireth by the way, and putteth out moſs. *Bacon's Nat. Hiſt.*

The *moſſy* fountains and the Sylvan ſhades
Delight no more. *Pope's Meſſiah.*

MOST. *adj.* the ſuperlative of *more*. [*mæte*, Saxon; *meſt*, Dutch.] Conſiſting of the greateſt number; conſiſting of the greateſt quantity.

Garden fruits which have any acrimony in them, and *moſt* ſorts of berries, will produce diarrhoeas. *Arbutnot.*

He thinks *moſt* ſorts of learning flouriſhed among them, and I, that only ſome ſort of learning was kept alive by them. *Pope.*

MOST. *adv.* [*maſts*, Gothick; *mæte*, Saxon; *meſt*, Dutch; *meſt*, Daniſh.]

1. The particle noting the ſuperlative degree.

Competency of all other proportions is the *moſt* incentive to induſtry; too little makes men deſperate, and too much careleſs. *Decay of Piety.*

The faculties of the ſupreme ſpirit *moſt* certainly may be enlarged without bounds. *Cheyne's Phil. Principles.*

2. In the greateſt degree.

Moſt ſpend their mouths, when what they ſeem to threaten Runs far before them. *Shakeſpeare.*

He for whoſe only fake,
Or *moſt* for his, ſuch toils I undertake. *Dryden's Æn.*

Whilſt comprehended under that conſciouſneſs, the little finger is as much a part of itſelf as what is *moſt* to. *Locke.*

That which will *moſt* influence their carriage will be the company they converſe with, and the faſhion of thoſe about them. *Locke on Education.*

MOST. [*this* is a kind of ſubſtantive, being, according to its ſignification, ſingular or plural.]

1. The greateſt number: in this ſenſe it is plural.

Many of the apoſtles immediate diſciples ſent or carried the books of the four evangeliſts to *moſt* of the churches they had planted. *Addiſon on the Chriſtian Religion.*

Gravitation not being eſſential to matter, ought not to be reckoned among thoſe laws which ariſe from the diſpoſition of bodies, ſuch as *moſt* of the laws of motion are. *Cheyne.*

2. The greateſt value: in this ſenſe ſingular.

The report of this reſolute flying to London, the *moſt* was made of that which was true, and many falſities added. *Hayw.*

A covetous man makes the *moſt* of what he has, and of what he can get, without regard to Providence or Nature. *L'Eſtrange's Fables.*

3. The greateſt degree; the greateſt quantity.

A Spaniard will live in Iriſh ground a quarter of a year, or ſome months at the *moſt*. *Bacon.*

MOSTICK. *n. f.* A painter's ſtaff on which he leans his hand when he paints. *Amſ.*

MOSTLY. *adv.* [*from moſt*.] For the greateſt part.

This image of God, namely, natural reaſon, if totally or *moſtly* defaced, the right of government doth ceaſe. *Bacon.*

MOSTWHAT. *n. f.* [*moſt* and *what*.] For the moſt part. Obſolete.

God's promiſes being the ground of hope, and thoſe promiſes being but ſeldom abſolute, *moſtwhat* conditionate, the Chriſtian grace of hope muſt be proportioned and attemperate to the promiſe; if it exceed that temper and proportion, it becomes a tympany of hope. *Hammond.*

MOTION. *n. f.* Act of moving. *Diſt.*

MOTE. *n. f.* [*mot*, Saxon; *atomus*, Lat.] A ſmall particle of matter; any thing proverbially little.

You found his *note*, the king your *note* did ſee;
But I a beam do find in each of three. *Shakeſpeare.*

The little *notes* in the fun do ever ſtir, though there be no wind. *Bacon's Nat. Hiſt.* N^o. 879.

MOTE for *might*. Obſolete.

Such as dame Nature ſelf *note* fear to ſee,
Or ſhame, that ever ſhould ſo foul defects
From her moſt cunning hand eſcaped be. *Fairy Queen.*

MOTH. *n. f.* [*moð*, Saxon.] A ſmall winged inſect that eats cloths and hangings.

All the yarn Penelope ſpun in Ulyſſes's abſence, did but fill thence full of *moths*. *Shakeſpeare's Coriolanus.*

Every ſoldier in the wars ſhould do as every ſick man in his bed, waſh every *moth* out of his conſcience. *Shakeſp.*

He as a rotten thing conſumeth, as a garment that is *moth* eaten. *Job xiii. 28.*

Let *moths* through pages eat their way,
Your wars, your loves, your praifes be forgot,
And make of all an univerſal blot. *Dryden's Jew.*

MOTHER. *n. f.* [*moðon*, Saxon; *moder*, Daniſh; *moeder*, Dutch.]

1. A woman that has born a child; correlative to ſon or daughter.

Let thy mother rather feel thy pride, than ſear
Thy dangerous ſtoutneſs. *Shakeſpeare's Coriolanus.*

Come ſit down every mother's ſon,
And rehearſe your parts. *Shakeſpeare.*

I had not ſo much of man in me,
But all my mother came into mine eyes,
And gave me up to tears. *Shakeſp. Henry V.*

2. That which has produced any thing.

Alas, poor country! It cannot
Be call'd our mother, but our grave. *Shakeſpeare.*

The reſemblance of the conſtitution and diet of the inhabitants to thoſe of their mother country, occasion a great affinity in the popular diſeaſes. *Arbutnot on Air.*

The ſtrongest branch leave for a ſtandard, cutting off the reſt cloſe to the body of the mother plant. *Mortimer's Hiſt.*

3. That which has preceded in time: as, a mother church to chapels.

4. That which requires reverence and obedience.

The good of mother church, as well as that of civil ſociety, renders a judicial practice neceſſary. *Ayliffe's Patergon.*

5. Hyſterical paſſion; ſo called, as being imagined peculiar to women.

This ſtopping of the ſtomach might be the mother; forſo much as many were troubled with mother fits, although few returned to have died of them. *Grant's Bills.*

6. A familiar term of addreſs to an old woman; or to a woman dedicated to religious auſterities.

7. **MOTHER in law.** A husband's or wife's mother. *Amſ.*

I am come to ſet at variance the daughter in law againſt the mother in law. *Matth. x. 35.*

8. [*Moeder*, Dutch, from *modder*, mud.] A thick ſubſtance concreting in liquors; the lees or ſcum concreting.

If the body be liquid, and not apt to putreſy totally, it will caſt up a mother, as the mothers of diſtilled waters. *Bacon.*

Potted fowl, and fiſh come in ſo faſt,
That ere the fiſt is out the ſecond ſinks,
And mouldy mother gathers on the brinks. *Dryden.*

9. [*More* properly *modder*; *modde*, Dutch.] A young girl. Now totally obſolete.

A ſling for a mother, a bow for a boy,
A whip for a carter. *Tuſſer's Huſbandry.*

MOTHER. *adj.* Had at the birth; native.

For whatever mother wit or art
Could work, he put in proof. *Hubbard's Tale.*

Where did you ſtudy all this goodly ſpeech?
—It is extempore, from my mother wit. *Shakeſpeare.*

Boccace, living in the ſame age with Chaucer, had the ſame genius, and followed the ſame ſtudies: both writ novels, and each of them cultivated his mother tongue. *Dryden.*

Cecilia came,
Inventreſs of the vocal frame,
Enlarg'd the former narrow bounds,
And added length to ſolemn ſounds,
With nature's mother wit, and arts unknown before. *Dryd.*

TO MOTHER. *v. n.* To gather concretion.

They oint their naked limbs with mother'd oil. *Dryden.*

MOTHER of pearl. A kind of coarſe pearl; the ſhell in which pearls are generated.

His mortal blade
In ivory ſheath, yearv'd with curious ſlights,
Whoſe hilt was burniſh'd gold, and handle ſtrong
Of mother-pearl. *Fairy Qu. b. i.*

They were made of onyx, ſometimes of mother of pearl. *Hakeuill on Providence.*

MOTHERHOOD. *n. f.* [*from mother*.] The office or character of a mother.

Thou ſhalt ſee the bleſſed mother-maid
Exalted more for being good. *Dante.*

Than for her intereſt of motherhood. *Dante.*

MOTHERLESS. *adj.* [*from mother*.] Deſtitute of a mother; orphan of a mother.

I might ſhew you my children, whom the rigour of your juſtice would make complete orphans, being already mother-leſs. *Waller's Speech to the Houſe of Commons.*

My concern for the three poor motherleſs children obliges me to give you this advice. *Arbutnot's Hiſt. of J. Bull.*

MOTHERLY. *adj.* [*from mother* and *like*.] Belonging to a mother; ſuitable to a mother.

They can owe no leſs than child-like obedience to her that hath more than motherly power. *Hooker, b. v.*

They termed her the great mother, for her motherly care in cheriſhing her brethren whilſt young. *Raleigh.*

Within her breſt though calm, her breſt though pure,
Motherly cares and fears got head, and rais'd
Some troubled thoughts. *Milton's Par. Reg. b. ii.*

When I ſee the motherly airs of my little daughters when playing with their puppets, I cannot but flatter myſelf that their husbands and children will be happy in the poſſeſſion of ſuch wives and mothers. *Addiſon's Spect. N^o. 500.*

Though the was a truly good woman, and had a ſincere motherly love for her ſon John, yet there wanted not thoſe who endeavour'd to create a miſunderſtanding between them. *Arb.*

MOTHERLY.

MOT

Mo'THERLY. *adv.* [*from mother*.] In manner of, mother.

Th' air doth not motherly ſit on the earth,
To hatch her ſeaſons, and give all things birth. *Donne.*

MOTHER of thyme. *n. f.* [*ſerpyllum*, Latin.] It hath trailing branches, which are not ſo woody and hard as thoſe of thyme, but in every other reſpect is the ſame. *Miller.*

MOTHERWORT. *n. f.* [*cardiaca*, Latin.] A plant.

The flower of the motherwort conſiſts of one leaf, and is of the lip kind, whole upper lip is imbricated and much longer than the under one, which is cut into three parts; from the flower-cup ariſes the pointal, fixed like a nail in the hinder part of the flower, attended by four embryos which become angular ſeeds, occupying the flower-cup. *Miller.*

MOTHERY. *adj.* [*from mother*.] Concreted; full of concretions; dreggy; ſeculent: uſed of liquors.

MOTHMULLEIN. *n. f.* [*blattaria*, Latin.] A plant.

The leaves of the mothmullain are placed alternately upon the branches; the cup of the flower conſiſts of one leaf, which is divided into five ſegments; the flower conſiſts of one leaf, which ſpreads open, and is divided alſo into five ſegments: they are produced in long ſpikes, and are ſucceeded by round veſſels, which are divided into cells, and contain many ſmall ſeeds in each. *Miller.*

MOTHERWORT. *n. f.* [*motherwort*, Latin.] An herb.

MOTHER. *adj.* [*from moth*.] Full of moths.

His horſe hipp'd with an old moth ſaddle, the ſtirrups of no kindred. *Shakeſpeare's Taming of the Shrew.*

MOTION. *n. f.* [*motum*, French; *motus*, Latin.]

1. The act of changing place.

2. Manner of moving the body; port; gait.

Virtue too, as well as vice, is clad
In ſiſh and blood ſo well, that Plato had
Beheld, what his high fancy once embrac'd,
Virtue with colours, ſpeech and motion grac'd. *Waller.*

3. Change of poſture; action.

Encourag'd thus the brought her younglings nigh,
Watching the motions of her patron's eye. *Dryden.*

4. Tendency of the mind; thought.

Let a good man obey every good motion riſing in his heart, knowing that every ſuch motion proceeds from God. *South.*

5. Propoſal made.

He compaſſed a motion of the prodigal ſon, and married a tinker's wife within a mile where my land lies. *Shakeſp.*

What would you with me?
—Your father and my uncle have made motions; if it be my luck, ſo; if not, happy man be his dole. *Shakeſpeare.*

If our queen and this young prince agree,
I'll join my younger daughter, and my joy,
To him forthwith, in holy wedlock bands.
—Yes, I agree, and thank you for your motion. *Shakeſp.*

6. Impulſe communicated.

Whether that motion, vitality and operation, were by incubation, or how elſe, the manner is only known to God. *Rol.*

Carnality within raises all the combustion without: this is the great wheel to which the clock owes its motion. *Dec. of Pi.*

Love awakes the ſleepy vigour of the ſoul,
And bruſhing o'er adds motion to the pool. *Dryden.*

TO MOTION. *v. a.* [*from the noun*.] To propoſe.

MOTIONLESS. *adj.* [*from motum*.] Wanting motion; being without motion.

We cannot free the lady that ſits here,
In ſtony fetters fixt, and motionleſs.
Ha! Do I dream? Is this my hop'd ſucceſs?
I grow a ſtatue, ſtiff and motionleſs. *Dryden's Aurengzebe.*

Should our globe have had a greater ſhare
Of this ſtrong force, by which the parts cohere;
Things had been bound by ſuch a pow'rful chain,
That all would fix'd and motionleſs remain. *Blackmore.*

MOTIVE. *adj.* [*motivus*, Latin.]

1. Cauſing motion; having movent.

Shall every motive argument uſed in ſuch kind of conferences be made a rule for others ſtill to conclude the like by, concerning all things of like nature, when as probable inducements may lead them to the contrary? *Hooker, b. iv.*

2. Having the power to move; having power to change place; having power to paſs from one to another.

The nerves ſerve for the conveyance of the motive faculty from the brain; the ligatures for the ſtrengthening of them, that they may not ſlag in motion. *Wilkins.*

We aſk you whence does motive vigour flow? *Blackmore.*

That fancy is eaſily diſproved from the motive power of ſouls embodied, and the gradual increaſe of men and animals. *Bentl.*

MOTIVE. *n. f.* [*motif*, French.]

1. That which determines the choice; that which incites the action.

Hereof we have no commandment, either in nature or ſcripture, which doth exact them at our hands; yet thoſe motives there are in both, which draw moſt effectually our minds unto them. *Hooker, b. ii.*

Why in that rawnels left you wife and children,
Thoſe precious motives, thoſe ſtrong knots of love,
Without leave-taking? *Shakeſpeare's Macbeth.*

What can be a ſtronger motive to a firm truſt on our Maker, than the giving us his ſon to ſuffer for us. *Addiſon.*

The motive for continuing in the ſame ſtate is only the preſent ſatisfaction in it; the motive to change is always ſome uneaſineſs. *Locke.*

2. Mover.

Heaven brought me up to be my daughter's dower;
As it hath ſated her to be my motive
And helper to a husband. *Shakeſp. All's well that ends well.*

Her wanton ſpirits look out
At every joint, and motive of her body. *Shakeſpeare.*

MOTLEY. *adj.* [*ſuppoſed to be corrupted from medley*, perhaps from *mothlike* coloured, ſpotted or variegated like a garden moth.] Mingled of various colours.

The motley fool thus moral'd on the time,
My lungs began to crow like chanticler,
That fools ſhould be ſo deep contemplative. *Shakeſpeare.*

They that come to ſee a fellow
In a long motley coat, guarded with yellow,
Will be deceiv'd. *Shakeſpeare's Henry VIII.*

Expence and after-thought, and idle care,
And doubts of motley hue, and dark deſpair. *Dryden.*

Enquire from whence this motley ſtyle
Did firſt our Roman purity deſile. *Dryden's Perſius.*

Traulus, of amphibious breed,
Motley fruit of mungril feed;
By the dam from lordlings ſprung,
By the fire exhal'd from dung. *Swift.*

MOTOR. *n. f.* [*motor*, Fr. from *moveo*, Latin.] A mover.

Thoſe bodies being of a congenious nature do readily receive the impreſſions of their motor, and, if not fettered by their gravity, conform themſelves to ſituations, wherein they beſt unite unto their animator. *Brown's Vulgar Errors, b. ii.*

MOTORY. *adj.* [*motorius*, Latin.] Giving motion.

The bones, were they dry, could not, without great difficulty, yield to the plucks and attractions of the motory muſcles. *Ray on Creation.*

MOTTO. *n. f.* [*motto*, Italian.] A ſentence added to a device, or prefixed to any thing written.

It may be ſaid to be the motto of human nature, rather to ſuffer than to die. *L'Eſtrange's Fables.*

We ought to be meek-ſpirited, till we are aſſured of the honeſty of our anceſtors; for covetouſneſs and circumvention make no good motto for a coat. *Collier.*

It was the motto of a biſhop eminent for his piety and good works in king Charles the ſecond's reign, *Inſervi Deo & Letare*, Serve God and be cheerful. *Addiſon's Freeholder.*

TO MOVE. *v. a.* [*moveo*, Latin.]

1. To put out of one place into another; to put in motion.

Sinai itſelf was moved at the preſence of God. *Pſal. lxxviii.*

At this my heart trembleth, and is moved out of his place. *Job xxviii. 1.*

2. To give an impulſe to.

The pretext of piety is but like the hand of a clock, ſet indeed more conſpicuouſly, but directed wholly by the ſecret motions of carnality within. *Decay of Piety.*

3. To propoſe; to recommend.

If the firſt conſultation be not ſufficient, the will may move a review, and require the underſtanding to inform itſelf better. *Biſhop Bramhall againſt Hobbes.*

They are to be blamed alike, who move and who decline war upon particular reſpects. *Howard's Edu. VI.*

They find a great inconvenience in moving their ſuits by an interpreter. *Davies on Ireland.*

To Indamora you my ſuit muſt move. *Dryden.*

The will being the power of directing our operative faculties to ſome action, for ſome end, cannot at any time be moved towards what is judged at that time inattainable. *Locke.*

4. To perſuade; to prevail on the mind.

A thouſand knees,
Ten thouſand years together, naked, ſtanding,
Upon a barren mountain, and ſtill Winter
In ſtorm perpetual, could not move the gods
To look that way thou wert. *Shakeſp. Winter's Tale.*

Gritus offered the Tranſylvanians money; but minds deſirous of revenge were not moved with gold. *Knolles.*